REMARKS

Claims 1-25, as amended, remain herein. New claims 26-29 are hereby added.

New claim 26, which depends from claim 13, recites a lengthened polypeptide chain. Support for new claim 26 can be found on page 12 of the present Specification. Here, the polypeptide is described as a single-chain polypeptide composed of heavy chain and light chain subunits. New claims 27-29, are merely analogues of claims 19-21, and now depending from claim 26. Additionally, claims 19-22 were objected to. Applicants respectfully submit that the claim amendments made herewith overcome these objections.

In response to the election restriction requirement, Applicants elect with traverse Group V, which corresponds to claims 13-16 and claims 19-22.

Claims 13-16 recite a polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acids sequences selected from SEQ. ID NO. 31-36. Claim 19, recites a pharmaceutical composition containing the polypeptide of claims 13-16. Claim 20 recites a method for preparing an agent for the diagnosis or for the treatment or prevention of AITP. Claim 21 recites a method for preparing an agent for the diagnosis or for the treatment or prevention of AITP comprising providing a polypeptide according to claim 13, and combining with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. Claim 22, depending from claim 21, recites a method for modulating blood coagulation.

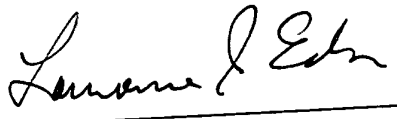
Applicants respectfully submit that the unity of the subject matter of the application has already been acknowledged during the international preliminary examination proceedings. Therefore, Applicants request that examination proceed for all of claims 1-25.

Additionally, at least Group I, which features claims 1-3, 11, 12 and 19-21 should be examined with elected Group V. Group I is drawn to a nucleic acid, and Group V is drawn to a polypeptide encoded by that same nucleic acid. A similar situation is illustrated in Example 17 of the "Examples Concerning Unity of Invention" in Annex B of the PCT Administrative Instructions. Specifically, in example 17, unity exists between a claim reciting a protein, and a DNA sequence encoding that protein. Please see the M.P.E.P. at AI - 43. Therefore, here if Group V is to be examined, so should Group I.

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. If it believed that the application is not in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned attorney be contacted at the telephone number below.

Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

Respectfully submitted,



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MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS

13. (Amended) Polypeptide, characterized in that it

[(a)] is encoded by a nucleic acid [according to Claim 1 and/or a nucleic acid according to Claim 4 or

(b) by a nucleic acid according to Claim 7 and/or a nucleic acid according to claim 9.]which encodes a heavy chain, which is able to bind to GPIIb/IIIa, of a human antibody, or a functional derivative or a fragment thereof, and comprises a CDR3 region, selected from:

(a) a nucleotide sequence which encodes the amino acid sequence:

V L P F D P I S M D V,

(b) a nucleotide sequence which encodes the amino acid sequence

A L G S W G G W D H Y M D V, and

a nucleotide sequence which encodes an amino acid sequence having an homology of at least 80% with an amino acid sequence from (a) or (b).

19. (Twice Amended) Pharmaceutical composition which comprises, as the active component, [a nucleic acid according to claim 1, a vector according to claim 11, a cell according to claim 12,] a polypeptide according to claim 13 [or an antibody according to claim 17,] where appropriate together with other active components and pharmaceutically customary adjuvants, additives or excipients.

20. (Twice Amended) A method for preparing an agent for the diagnosis or for the treatment or prevention of AITP comprising: [Use of a nucleic acid according to claim 1, of a vector according to claim 11, of a cell according to claim 12, of]

providing a polypeptide according to claim 13, and

combining with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier,[of an antibody according to claim 17, or of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 18 or]thereby preparing an agent for the diagnosis or for the treatment or prevention of AITP.

21. (Twice Amended) A method for preparing an agent for exerting an effect on the binding of fibrinogen to blood platelets. [Use of nucleic acid according to claim 1, of a vector according to claim 11, of a cell according to claim 12, of]

providing a polypeptide according to claim 13, and

combining with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, [or of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19 for] thereby preparing an agent for exerting an effect on the binding of fibrinogen to blood platelets.